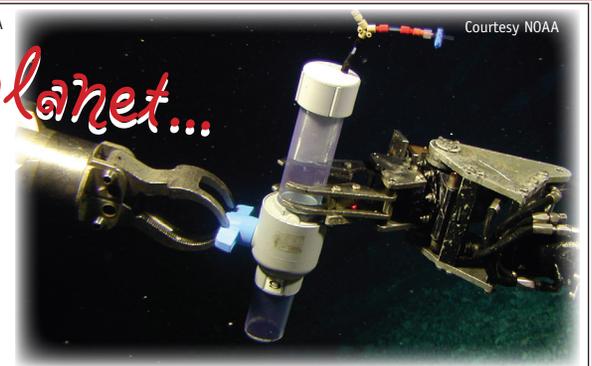
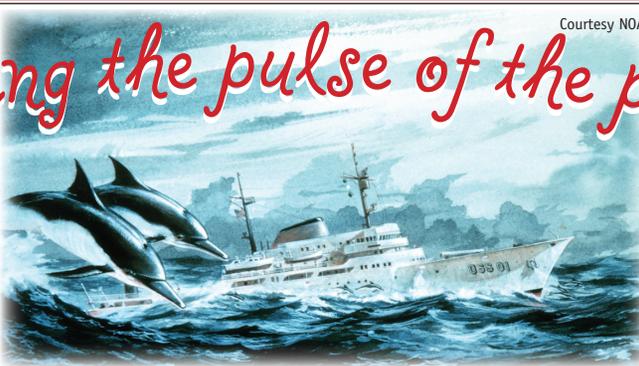




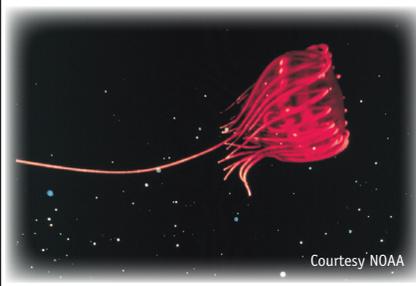
Taking the pulse of the planet...



EXPLORE THE EARTH



Exploration is an important part of NOAA's focus on Earth's ecosystems. Ocean exploration in the United States began in 1807 when Thomas Jefferson authorized the Survey of the Coast. But today, after 200 years, about 95% of Earth's oceans are still unexplored—mainly because we haven't known how to handle the extreme cold and pressure of the deep ocean until very recently. Through NOAA's Ocean Explorer program, modern pioneers are investigating parts of Earth's underwater world that have been virtually unknown and unseen. Such exploration may reveal clues to the origin of life on Earth, cures for human diseases, answers on how to achieve sustainable use of resources, links to our maritime history, and information to protect endangered species.



An exciting new project, the Global Earth Observation System (GOES), is about to tell us a lot more about the Earth and how it works. The basic idea is to combine information from thousands of sources that are already making observations about Earth to make people around the globe healthier, safer, and better equipped to manage basic daily needs. NOAA has partnered with more than 60 countries and the European Commission to make this idea a reality.

Learn more about NOAA's Exploration projects with these activities:

- Build an Underwater Robot
- Make Your Own Volcano
- Weird, Red, and Slightly Gross
- Do You Have Twisted Vision?
- Be A Shipwreck Detective!

and more!

